

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3255

S E C R E T DAKAR 7198

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO

SUBJ: ANGOLA: HOLDING THE LINE

REF: STATE 299944

SUMMARY: SENGHOR ENCOURAGED BY REAFFIRMATION OF U.S.
DETERMINATION AND WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE SCHAUFLE.
SENGHOR TAKING INITIATIVE WITH CILSS LEADERS AND ZAIRE.
END SUMMARY.

1. I MADE DEMARCHE TEXTUALLY AS INSTRUCTED REFTTEL WHEN
PRESIDENT SENGHOR RECEIVED ME THIS AFTERNOON AT HIS RESIDENCE.
HE ASKED THAT I THANK SECRETARY KISSINGER FOR HIS DEMARCHE
AND ASSURE USG THAT HE DID NOT HAVE TO BE CONVINCED OF
CONTINUING MENACE OF SOVIET ROLE IN ANGOLA. HE FEARED WEST
MIGHT NOT BE TAKING ANGOLAN SITUATION SERIOUSLY AND WAS
REASSURED THAT USG INTENDED TO HOLD THE LINE ALTHOUGH
SITUATION NOW CONDITIONED BY CONGRESSIONAL CONSTRAINTS.

2. SENGHOR SAID HE WOULD WELCOME VISIT FROM ASSISTANT
SECRETARY SCHAUFLE WHICH WOULD ENABLE DISCUSSION OF
OBJECTIVES AND FUTURE TACTICS. ONLY A FEW DAYS NOTICE WOULD
BE REQUIRED, SINCE HE WOULD BE AT HIS COUNTRY HOME WITHIN
EASY HELICOPTER FLIGHT FROM DAKAR. HIS PRESENT PLANS
ARE TO REMAIN IN SENEGAL UNTIL HIS DEPARTURE FOR ADDIS ABABA

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JANUARY 6 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT ON

DECEMBER 23. THAT VISIT TO MAURITANIA DICTATED BY HIS CONCERN ABOUT ESCALATION OF SPANISH SAHARA CONFLICT AND ANGOLAN CRISIS WHICH HE CONSIDERED EQUALLY DANGEROUS SITUATIONS WHERE SOVIET ROLE IS BANEFUL.

3. IN NOUAKCHOTT SENGHOR PLANS TO TALK TO CHIEFS OF STATE AND OTHER LEADERS OF 10 AFRICAN STATES ATTENDING INTERSTATE COMMITTEE FOR FIGHT AGAINST SAHELIAN DROUGHT (CILSS) CONFERENCE AND STRESS NEED FOR CONCERTED ACTION OF MODERATES IN FACE OF SOVIET, ALGERIAN AND NIGERIAN OFFENSIVE IN SUPPORT OF MPLA. HE WOULD ALSO SEEK SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA WHO FACE ALGERIAN MILITARY THRUST IN SAHARA. FRENCH WERE NOW HELPING MOROCCANS, HE SAID.

4. AFTER SEEING ME SENGHOR WOULD RECEIVE ZAIRE AMBASSADOR AND ASK HIM TO CARRY PERSONAL LETTER TO MOBUTU INDICATING SENEGALESE SUPPORT IN FACE OF ATTACKS ZAIRE RECEIVING FROM NIGERIA, GUINEA AND OTHER STATES WHO SUPPORT MPLA.

5. SENGHOR SAID HE WOULD SEEK TO PRECLUDE OAU MAJORITY FOR RECOGNITION OF MPLA AT ADDIS ABABA, BAL SHOULD SUCH MAJORITY DEVELOP HE WOULD URGE MINOTIRY WHO SUPPORTED FNLA AND UNITA TO CHANGE POSITIONS AND ACCORD OFFICIAL RECOGNITION TO A FNLA/UNITA REGIME.

6. SENGHOR CONCLUDED BY SAYING SENEGAL DID NOT INTEND TO BEND BEFORE COMMUNIST OR RADICAL AFRICAN PRESSURES. AFRICA MIGHT BE HEADING TOWARD TYPE OF RADICAL-MODERATE SPLIT THAT EXISTED DURING 1960S WITH CASABLANCA AND MONROVIA GROUPS, BUT SUCH DEVELOPMENT NOT NECESSARILY BAD IF IT BECAME MEANS OF ACHIEVING PEACE AND AVOIDING SOVIET DOMINATION OF ANGOLA.

7. DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER POSTS AS APPROPRIATE.
AGGREY

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